

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 914**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Cogdill**

February 18, 2005

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An act to amend Section 2416 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 914, as introduced, Cogdill. Authorized emergency vehicles.

Existing law authorizes the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to issue authorized emergency vehicle permits only for specified vehicles, and then only upon a finding in each case that the vehicles are used in responding to emergency calls for fire or law enforcement or for the immediate preservation of life or property or for the apprehension of law violators. Among the specified listed vehicles, are vehicles, other than privately owned ambulances, used by privately owned ambulance operators exclusively to transport medical supplies, lifesaving equipment, or personnel to the scene of an emergency when requested as specified.

This bill would recast the provision concerning vehicles used by privately owned ambulance operators to apply the above to those vehicles when used by privately owned ambulance operators primarily, rather than exclusively, for the above-described emergency transportation services. The bill would allow these vehicles to be used occasionally for nonemergency medical or law enforcement purposes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 2416 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

2416. (a) The Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol may issue authorized emergency vehicle permits only for the following vehicles, and then, *except as specified in paragraph (9)*, only upon a finding in each case that the vehicle is used in responding to emergency calls for fire or law enforcement or for the immediate preservation of life or property or for the apprehension of law violators:

(1) ~~Any~~ A vehicle maintained in whole or in part by the state, a county or a city and privately owned and operated by a marshal, deputy marshal, or person who is a member of, and who receives salary from, and is regularly employed by, a police department or sheriff's department, ~~provided the~~. The state, county or city ~~does~~ may not furnish to that person a publicly owned authorized emergency vehicle.

(2) ~~Any~~ A vehicle owned and operated by a public utility, used primarily to accomplish emergency repairs to utility facilities or used primarily by railroad police officers, who are commissioned by the Governor, in the performance of their duties.

(3) Firefighting or rescue equipment designed and operated exclusively ~~as such~~ for those purposes.

(4) ~~Any~~ A vehicle operated by the chief, assistant chief, or one other uniformed person designated by the chief of a fire department organized as provided in the Health and Safety Code or the Government Code or pursuant to special act of the Legislature.

(5) ~~Any~~ A vehicle of an air pollution control district used to enforce provisions of law relating to air pollution from motor vehicles.

(6) ~~Any~~ A vehicle operated by the chief of any fire department established on any base of the armed forces of the United States.

(7) ~~Any~~ A vehicle owned and operated by ~~any~~ a fire company organized pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 14825) of the Health and Safety Code.

(8) Privately owned ambulances licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 2500).

1 (9) Vehicles other than privately owned ambulances used by  
2 privately owned ambulance operators ~~exclusively~~ *primarily* to  
3 transport medical supplies, lifesaving equipment, or personnel to  
4 the scene of an emergency when a request for medical supplies,  
5 lifesaving equipment, or personnel has been made by ~~any~~ *a*  
6 person or public agency responsible for providing emergency  
7 medical transportation. *These vehicles may be used occasionally*  
8 *for nonemergency medical or law enforcement purposes.* These  
9 vehicles shall display a sign or lettering not less than two and  
10 one-half inches in height, in a color providing a sharp contrast to  
11 its background, on each side showing the name of the ambulance  
12 operator.

13 (10) ~~Any~~ *A* vehicle owned and operated by an office or  
14 department of a city, county, or district which is designated by an  
15 ordinance adopted by the governing body of that local agency as  
16 a hazardous materials response team vehicle for response to  
17 hazardous materials emergencies.

18 (b) The commissioner may adopt and enforce regulations to  
19 implement this section.

20 (c) Violation of any regulation adopted by the commissioner  
21 pursuant to this section is a misdemeanor.